

in obtaining the skills and knowledge needed to thrive;

(3) supports efforts to better assist low-income and first-generation college students throughout the financial aid and college application process;

(4) urges public officials, educators, parents, students, and communities in the United States to observe National College Application Month with appropriate activities and programs designed to encourage students to consider, research, and apply to college and for financial aid; and

(5) commends teachers, counselors, mentors, and parents who support students throughout the college application process, as well as the organizations and institutions partnering to eliminate barriers to higher education.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 792—TO AUTHORIZE REPRESENTATION BY THE SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL IN THE CASE OF CHAD MICHAEL FREIN V. DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

## S. RES. 792

Whereas, Senator Dianne Feinstein has been named as a defendant in the case of *Chad Michael Frein v. Dianne Feinstein*, Civil Action No. 20-CV-0252-LJV, currently pending in the United States District Court for the Western District of New York;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§ 288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend Members of the Senate in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities: Now therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Senator Feinstein in the case of *Chad Michael Frein v. Dianne Feinstein*.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the distinguished Democratic leader, Mr. SCHUMER, I send to the desk a resolution authorizing representation by the Senate Legal Counsel and ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, this resolution concerns a civil action pending in New York federal court against Senator FEINSTEIN. In this lawsuit, the pro se plaintiff asserts a jumble of confusing allegations claiming that local government officials in California have assaulted him and taken his property. He appears to sue Senator FEINSTEIN because he wrote to her for assistance, and she did not take sufficient action to satisfy plaintiff. Plaintiff's suit is subject to dismissal on jurisdictional grounds and failure to state a claim. This resolution would authorize the Senate Legal Counsel to represent Senator FEINSTEIN in order to seek dismissal of this suit.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 793—REMEMBERING THE DECEMBER 6, 2019, TERRORIST ATTACK AT NAVAL AIR STATION PENSACOLA AND COMMEMORATING THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES, AND THOSE WHO WERE INJURED, IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. JONES, Mr. SHELBY, and Mrs. LOEFFLER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

## S. RES. 793

Whereas December 6, 2020, the 1-year anniversary of the terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola (referred to in this preamble as the "terrorist attack"), is a day of commemoration for those who lost their lives, and those who were injured, during the terrorist attack, including—

(1) Ensign Joshua Kaleb Watson of Enterprise, Alabama;

(2) Aircrewman Third Class Mohammed Sameh Haitham of St. Petersburg, Florida; and

(3) Aircrewman Third Class Cameron Scott Walters of Richmond Hill, Georgia;

Whereas the 3 servicemembers who died in the terrorist attack were posthumously awarded the Purple Heart;

Whereas the terrorist who committed the terrorist attack was a Saudi Arabian foreign military student who had been radicalized and established contacts with Al Qaeda operatives prior to attending flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola;

Whereas Naval Air Station Pensacola security forces and Escambia County, Florida, law enforcement officers took decisive action to end the terrorist attack and have rightly earned the praises and awards bestowed upon them;

Whereas 2 civilians were awarded the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Medal for Valor for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 7 individuals were awarded the Purple Heart, or the law enforcement equivalent, for injuries sustained during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 9 military personnel were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 8 military personnel were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for their heroic actions during the terrorist attack;

Whereas 8 law enforcement officers were awarded the Medal of Valor for their actions taken during the terrorist attack; and

Whereas December 6, 2020, marks 1 year since the lives of 3 military personnel were tragically cut short by the egregious act of terrorism at Naval Air Station Pensacola: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the December 6, 2019, terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola (referred to in this resolution as the "terrorist attack");

(2) commemorates in sorrow the servicemembers and civilians who lost their lives, or who were injured, and the harm caused to the surrounding community, as a result of the terrorist attack;

(3) remembers Ensign Joshua Kaleb Watson, Aircrewman Third Class Mohammed Sameh Haitham, and Aircrewman Third Class Cameron Scott Walters, who were killed in the terrorist attack;

(4) expresses gratitude for the heroic actions that the civilians, uniformed personnel, and law enforcement performed in the aftermath of the terrorist attack;

(5) lauds the decision to give medals and awards to the law enforcement officers, uniformed servicemembers, and civilians who responded heroically on the morning of December 6, 2019; and

(6) commends the efforts undertaken by the Department of Defense to enhance security at military installations to ensure that the tragedy represented by the terrorist attack is never repeated.

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 50—URGING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON TRUTH, RACIAL HEALING, AND TRANSFORMATION

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. COONS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. WARREN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

## S. CON. RES. 50

Whereas the first ship carrying enslaved Africans to what is now known as the United States of America arrived in 1619;

Whereas that event 400 years ago was significant not only because it ushered in the institution of chattel slavery of African Americans, but also because it facilitated the systematic oppression of all people of color that has been a devastating and insufficiently understood and acknowledged aspect of our Nation's history over those past 400 years, and that has left a legacy of that oppression that haunts our Nation to this day;

Whereas the institution of chattel slavery in the United States subjugated African Americans for nearly 250 years, fractured our Nation, and made a mockery of its founding principle that "all men are created equal";

Whereas the signing of the Constitution of the United States failed to end slavery and oppressions against African Americans and other people of color, thus embedding in society the belief in the myth of a hierarchy of human value based on superficial physical characteristics such as skin color and facial features, and resulting in purposeful and persistent racial inequities in education, health care, employment, Social Security and veteran benefits, land ownership, financial assistance, food security, wages, voting rights, and the justice system;

Whereas that oppression denied opportunity and mobility to African Americans and other people of color within the United States, resulting in stolen labor worth billions of dollars while ultimately forestalling landmark contributions that African Americans and other people of color would make in science, arts, commerce, and public service;

Whereas Reconstruction represented a significant but constrained moment of advances for Black rights as epitomized by the Freedman's Bureau, which negotiated labor contracts for ex-enslaved people but failed to secure their own land for them;

Whereas the brutal overthrow of Reconstruction failed all individuals in the United States by failing to ensure the safety and security of African Americans and by emboldening States and municipalities in both the North and South to enact numerous laws and policies to stymie the socioeconomic mobility and political voice of freed Blacks, thus maintaining their subservience to Whites;

Whereas Reconstruction, the civil rights movement, and other efforts to redress the

grievances of marginalized people were sabotaged, both intentionally and unintentionally, by those in power, thus rendering the accomplishments of those efforts transitory and unsustainable, and further embedding the racial hierarchy in society;

Whereas examples of government actions directed against populations of color (referred to in this resolution as “discriminatory government actions”) include—

(1) the creation of the Federal Housing Administration, which adopted specific policies designed to incentivize residential segregation;

(2) the enactment of legislation creating the Social Security program, for which most African Americans were purposely rendered ineligible during its first 2 decades;

(3) the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944 (commonly known as the “G.I. Bill of Rights”; 58 Stat. 284, chapter 268), which left administration of its programs to the States, thus enabling blatant discrimination against African American veterans;

(4) the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, which allowed labor unions to discriminate based on race;

(5) subprime lending aimed purposefully at families of color;

(6) disenfranchisement of Native Americans, who, until 1924, were denied citizenship on land Native Americans had occupied for millennia;

(7) Federal Indian Boarding School policy during the 19th and 20th centuries, the purpose of which was to “civilize” Native children through methods intended to eradicate Native cultures, traditions, and languages;

(8) land policies toward Indian Tribes, such as the allotment policy, which caused the loss of over 90,000,000 acres of Tribal lands, even though two-thirds of that acreage was guaranteed to Indian Tribes by treaties and other Federal laws, and similar unjustified land grabs from Indian Tribes that occurred regionally throughout the late 1800s and into the termination era in the 1950s and 1960s;

(9) the involuntary removal of Mexicans and United States citizens of Mexican descent through large-scale discriminatory deportation programs in the 1930s and 1950s;

(10) the United States annexation of Puerto Rico, which made Puerto Ricans citizens of the United States without affording them voting rights;

(11) racial discrimination against Latino Americans, which has forced Latino Americans to fight continuously for equal access to employment, housing, health care, financial services, and education;

(12) the Act entitled “An Act to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese”, approved May 6, 1892 (commonly known as the “Chinese Exclusion Act”; 22 Stat. 58, chapter 126), which effectively halted immigration from China and barred Chinese immigrants from becoming citizens of the United States, and which was the first instance of xenophobic legislation signed into law specifically targeting a specific group of people based on ethnicity;

(13) the treatment of Japanese Americans, despite no evidence of disloyalty, as suspect and traitorous in the very country they helped to build, leading most notably to the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans beginning in 1942;

(14) the conspiracy to overthrow the Kingdom of Hawaii and annex the land of the Kingdom of Hawaii, without the consent of or compensation to the Native Hawaiian people of Hawaii; and

(15) the United States history of colonialism in the Pacific, which has resulted in economic, health, and educational disparities among other inequities, for people in United States territories, as well as independent nations with which the United States has treaty obligations;

Whereas those discriminatory government actions, among other government policies that have had racially disparate impacts, have disproportionately barred African Americans and other people of color from building wealth, thus limiting potential capital and exacerbating the racial wealth gap;

Whereas research has shown that the persistent racial wealth gap has had a significant negative impact on other racial disparities, such as the achievement gap, disparities in school dropout rates, income gaps, disparities in home ownership rates, health outcome disparities, and disparities in incarceration rates;

Whereas United States civic leaders and foundations have spearheaded critical efforts to advance racial healing, understanding, and transformation within the United States, recognizing that it is in our collective national interest to urgently address the unhealed, entrenched divisions that will severely undermine our democracy if they are allowed to continue to exist;

Whereas many of the most far-reaching victories for racial healing in the United States have been greatly enhanced by the involvement, support, and dedication of individuals from any and all racial groups;

Whereas at the same time, much of the progress toward racial healing and racial equity in the United States has been limited or reversed by our failure to address the root cause of racism, the belief in the myth of a hierarchy of human value based on superficial physical characteristics such as skin color and facial features;

Whereas the United States institution of slavery, as well as other examples enumerated in this resolution, represent intentional and blatant violations of the most basic right of every individual in the United States to a free and decent life;

Whereas the consequences of oppression against people of color have cascaded for centuries, across generations, beyond the era of active enslavement, imperiling for descendants of slaves and other targets of oppression what should have otherwise been the right of every individual in the United States to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;

Whereas more than 40 countries have reckoned with historical injustice and its aftermath through forming Truth and Reconciliation Commissions to move toward restorative justice and to return dignity to their citizens;

Whereas for 3 decades there has been a growing movement inside and outside Congress to have the Federal Government develop material remedies for the institution of slavery, including through a Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans described in H.R. 40, 116th Congress, as introduced on January 3, 2019;

Whereas the formation of a United States Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation does not supplant the formation of a Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans, but rather complements that effort; and

Whereas contemporary social science, medical science, and the rapidly expanding use of artificial intelligence and social media reveal the costs and potential threats to our democracy if we continue to allow unhealed, entrenched divisions to be ignored and exploited: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—*

(1) affirms, on the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first slave ship to the United States, that the Nation owes a long-overdue debt of remembrance to not only those who lived through the egregious injustices enu-

merated in this resolution, but also to their descendants; and

(2) urges the establishment of a United States Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation to properly acknowledge, memorialize, and be a catalyst for progress toward—

(A) jettisoning the belief in a hierarchy of human value;

(B) embracing our common humanity; and

(C) permanently eliminating persistent racial inequities.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I have 3 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at a time to be determined, to conduct a hearing on nomination.

### COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nomination.

### COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 3, 2020, at 10 a.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

## THE CALENDAR

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following bills, en bloc: H.R. 2246, H.R. 4279, S. 4409, H.R. 2969, H.R. 3275, H.R. 3847, H.R. 3870, H.R. 4034, H.R. 4200, H.R. 4672, H.R. 4785, H.R. 4975, H.R. 5062, H.R. 5317, S. 4684, H.R. 2454, H.R. 3005, H.R. 3680, H.R. 4725, H.R. 4875, H.R. 4971, H.R. 5307, and H.R. 5954.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the bills, en bloc?

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bills, en bloc.

Mr. BLUNT. I ask unanimous consent that the bills, en bloc, be read a third time and passed and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?